GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3051
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
URBAN DEVELOPMENT FUNDS
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA;LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether conference of Ministers for State Urban Development was held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the agenda discussed and the decisions arrived at in the conference;

(c) whether the participants have pleaded for more financial aid in view of the severe shortage of funds for providing efficient civic services and carrying out development work; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)to(c): A two-day Conference of Ministers of Local Self Government and Urban Development of States and Union Territories was held at New Delhi on 17 - 18 January, 2000. In this Conference, various issues relating to urban development and municipal administration were discussed. During the course of discussion, the participants desired for more financial assistance to local bodies for better civic service and development work.

(d): As per Entry 5 of the State List of the Constitution, Local Government is a State subject.Therefore, it is for the concerned State Governments to take remedial steps to improve the financial conditions of municipal bodies. In order to assist the State Governments and Municipal Bodies, the Minisitry of Urban Development is already operating Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns; Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities; Low Cost Sanitation for Liberation of Scavengers; Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme; etc. Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided to State Governments to improve the urban infrastructure to provide better civic facilities to the people.